In Supposed Sever; Popul which furnished at the Alms House in Pulachel phia; during the Spring of 1824.

Valleda mors aque putent feeds peutersum tabornas Reguerges turns. — Hor.

My The Lacey Smith of For Member of the Miladelphia Medical Society

Dusented November 6# 1824

An account de.

In selecting this subject, for a medical thisis, I have been actuated by the interesting nature of the disease; as well as by a desire to avoid paths, which have all -ready been well beaten by able and experionced writers. Torsesfing little personal knowl edge, of the various maladies which affect the human frame, and just entering the Temple of medical Science; the student in attempting to give a systematic account of most diseases, can but reache the words and dentiments of others. For these rea-- sonn and believing that it is by an attentive observance of the various phenomona which accompany the rise and pro -grefs of disease; that the most important

part of our practical knowledge is to be gained; I have chosen to relate what I have seen, in preference to what I have read. In doing so, I cannet but 4 mis my whnowledgements to the attending Physicians of the Alms house, at that period Fostors Mitchell and Jackson, for the many interesting facts and Suggestion I have derived from their discourses at the bed dides of the Sich. The endeavours of the former gentleman especially, to diffuse information among of the clap were unweweed, and entitle him to the gratitude and es teem of all it's members. The discuse, of which I am to treat, oppoured in the Alms House during the month of december 1823; but it was not untill the first of March following, that I had besure to observe it with attention.

At this we it prevailed partly extensively, whereally in the Black dying in ward; a desty and ill ventilated games.

Hefore entering whom a ditail of to symptoms and treatment, it may not be composed to the make a few very buil observations whom its causes. This hast of my dubject, I must confile I have undertaken with much diffidence; because its somplete investigation would require with extensive observations, and matured judgement to form from them corner & tomeluscons.

of the Puder round course, very withe med be said . They may be considered as the same in general, with those if most other fecourse a typhored nature. The Amost cause appears to be some norrow

matter or effluera presing from felthy or crown (ded

-ded and ill ventilated places . Of its precise nature we have no adequate idea. It seems to be the same as that which sometimes causes such descolation in our bamps and Prisons. I shall not attempt to account for A, but merely mention buch facts, as came under my observation. It was generally buffrosed that the disease vas originally generated in the Alms house; but many patients were affected with it before they came in . Many , however, were attached by A, who had not been out of the house for months. But if the affect tion really originated in a ward, contain ing sixty or deventy hersons, it would

be reasonable to conclude, that as its came would be constantly in operation of would would attack nearly their whole number. This however was not the case; in the mens

It constitutes to lais e tinte parent state

Medical ward, to which fallude, forcer saw how than ught with the disease at the fame time and generally there was not be many. It was also abservable that they were all the me hart of the ward, and nearly all the vare which obviously me insteed in the word, were hateen to, whose beds were in this part of the worm.

I believe the disease was not propagated under any circums tances, except to theme who work in the wards on staining the impure air of the wards on taining these of the gentlemen in the estimation on the estimation in the estimations, who resided in a clean airy hast of the building were attacked by it, but their dust gette god them to be a most townstantly with the deck. If the students who attended the institution, although who attended the institution, although

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many of them were in the habit of shending an hour or two in the wards almost wary day, and minutely examining the patients; I believe not one was affected. from these facts, and the precautions taken token to heep the wards clean, by freegu ent whitewashing and derubbing of am inclined to believe that the disease does not ong mate in the Am House, but that the air sufficiently impure for its propage tron, to those who are exposed for a long time together to its influence, in its immediate buinity. What the nature of its original is, I do not know. The most common account of patients who were brought inte The house with the fever, was, that they had feen living on some time previous in damp and duty cellars; and it is probable that some nopious effluria arising from

a sex homes two or the words demost and and theten whiching and the a tree such places, is the cause of this destruct.

we malady . If the Proximate cause, I shall say, but little . I believe this to be a disease

they are, producing a specific action

on the human system, the precise nature of which is unknown.

A appears to suffer from genuine Typhus From, in not being contagious, exceled a pursons constantly residing in the impure and extracted atmosphere, in which

it prevails. In other respects its resemblements generine Typhus was strong, though

I never saw an orging of blood from the Gums, or indeed he man hage from any part, in its bast stages, which is

said to occur do often in that dis-

ease. I think Do Jack our opionon

was, that the proximate cause was infla mation of the basis of the brain. Dissections dometimes presented to us a turged Aprearance of the membranes, and effer from of serum; but is it not problemat. ical wether these were causes or effects. Benider, allowing them to be causes, they are by no means decisive wid. ence of inflamation? by herements have been repeatedly made by eminent men, which prove that healthy an mals may be bled to death, and yet all these appearances, will some - times be found whom dissection. One of the reasons which induced Di. - Jackson to Suppose, that the basis of the buin was particularly the seit of the disease ; was, that the organs of bense were belolom affected. This was

Jonerally true, but in one case there was complete deafness. You dissection there marks of inflamation, if such they may be called were by no means found confined to the basis of the hair, but appear ed in allmost every part of that orof the Symptoms. The attach common -by commenced with a feeling of lanyour and debility, followed by hair in the head, back, loins, and Sometimes in the joints; or as the patients common -by expressed it is all through the bone?; sometimes accompanied by nausea, and subness of stomach. These symptoms were soon succeeded by chiles, sometimes severe, at others scarcely perceptible, and at this time a whiteish fur was observable on the tongue. Hus state of things

did not last long. The chills were such uccled by a hot parched spin, and a pulse at first small, hard and quite, padually becoming as the disease advanced, weak, frequent and tremulous The countenance soon became of it self a sufficient prognostic of the disease. The face was not shrunk and palled, but rather bloated, and of a yellowish hown colour, becoming as the disease advanced, venous red. The whole app. earance was listless, the explices either partially or wholly closed, and the vessels of the Junia Conjunctiva inj -exted with vinous coloured blood, the whole eye having much the appear ance of that observed after a debauch. The lefts were porting, and hartially lovered with the same black matter

winds of the Thering who will

which now oncrusted the tongue and teeth. Juguently, there was allow a convulsive twitch ing of the corners of the mouth, producing, a motion usembling that of a person voleing a ball about between his teeth. The patient in this stage of the disease, would commonly he whon his back, and there was a constant tendency to slip down towards the foot of the bed. The knees sometimes chaw up, sometimes extended, and the extremities igitated by various convulsive motions. The right arm, appeared to me to be particular by affected in this manner, being often raised up, and pushed about in various directions. of the disease ran on to a fatal termination, the strength of the bystem was gradually exhausted; the discharges by wrine and stool, became woluntury and in Some instances resembled muddy

water, so that it was even difficult to distinguish the one from the other. I clickial shot affected in various parts of the body, which planged and can ento each other; the extendition became cold, the cough came on, a period clammy sevent affected, the beath my became short, barourious, invaluntary and told, and death finally terminated the stene. This toommonly happened on the seventh or month day.

Swing the whole course of the wiener, the dearness of intellect preserved by the patient was ruman hable. Though bying with nearly all the symptoms above men tioned, apparently comators and at the very gate, of death, yet when shothen to, they would answer clearly and rationally. I metimes they daid, they get pain in the head, but more commonly

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would say they felt no print, although whom being touched about the abdomen a spigastric region, they manifested symptoms of great sensibility.

But the dictare did not allowy pursue the exact course mentioned above. Some times in the latter stages the absormen be same temberated for por and want of action in the alimentary canal, it was regarded as a very centary

Journable symptom. Jurny March, and Avril, there accurred by them or sweather tares, which were suffered by to Jackson to be essentially different from the common fever. It commenced with a viole at frain in some one of the joints as the same, another, or too, and the few which followed was said to be more

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violent when this pain occurred in one of the small joints, as the toe . Soon after the prtient was attached with vio lent symptoms of fever, and on the second or third day the shin was lound covered by innumerable small blotthes, resembling at first right flee bites. These cases were all of them extrem ely futal. I do not however consider them as different from the others, except in malignancy, or the blotches which appeared, any thing more than (etechice, occurring at an early stape. It may be observed, that as the disease advanced, these petichia enlarged and run into each other, untile some of them exceeded a dollar in size. mother form in which the disease at speared was that of Pneumonia Typhoi (der

where the pries as whose a const there as there description of de fort hours on toward in When was dispersed from this with Sarall who we do the grantey on the State had with he as the area, some of there mount of homen theory heterings, enter see his characteristical athers, and the forthe wife

Aus, and during the latter hart of march and first of extend, their was not unprequent. The counterance in these cases, had much the same appearance as in the athers, but the longue was covered by a cream coloured four. There was known from in the breast, accompanied by longh, and a Julse, small, hard, frequent and virgular. The voice was not natural, being either boarse of the patholic model the counterance of the patholic model the counterance, we want and sound a street to time cate the disease.

I had but one opportunity of witnessing a post motion examination. It was in the case of I fallaher who died with the usual symptoms. In blood wesse to of the have were much injulied,

allet and led being Hillian Hase when in prince wither house or divile and the ventricles, were filled with bloody Lerum.

The uning membrane of the stomash forsented appearances of considerate to inflamation.

The left ventricle of the heart was enlar yed to double the dize of the right, and filled with uncogulated blood, - which, however, loagulated as soon

os removed.

The liver appeared healthy, but the yall Hadder was enormously distended, and the passage of the ble through the dectees cysteres, completely obstructed, appearency by shown.

The Freatment, adopted in the house was sumple; and as it was men by the same in all cases, I shall mon by attempt to illustrate I, by the

as therefore the way the flood him there was fillet to the rester of selection of book But also the peaced how they find the lated have overable process the the ten Howater whey mit fad theted in the

following one. It was that of beech aged about 35. This man came into the Clinical ward on the 2 nd May and his symptoms were then as follows. His pulse was full, frequent, doft and early compressed. Much nousea and hense of weight about his stom ash, with hain in the head, wild appearance of the eyes and stupon. His Shin hot and dry, and touque covered with dark brown fur. He was ordered an emetic, and after its opera tion a mercurial Cathartic, and also dry outs to the head. This relie ved the head for the time, but on the nex & day the symptoms again returned. A Blister to the back of the nech was then ordered and he was put whom the use of Furmer miner

Mountagons, got you that of huch and about 25. This man conserve to With & Million daniely Cathertee, one

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al and Calomel - Ther: Min : gro V Cal. somel gr j' to be given every two how. The stupor was again releived, but on the 4th, A again returned. He also on this day complained of some subness of the stomach. To obviate this the Thermes Min: was reduced to gring and there was much debility the calomel was omitted. His head was ordered to be shaved and elry cupped. On the 5th the hateent was much relieved; treatment continued. In the 6 th the bowels were found to be costivi, and a dose of magnesia and Ehrom salts operated with very good effect. The Therme meneral was redu end to doses of ip gr. every hour. This treatment was continued until the It, when the symptoms were much

trender on a ray thereing become werds the that the to there he was present le tourtoniers treaductly to pring. that thoughtenic mere has no the

mitigated. The tongue had become clean and moist, the skin soft and relaxed, the eyes naturals, mind com , posed, and the Julse full and boft but pretarnaturally flow. He now commenced taking bark in infusion but this did not appear to do much good. On the next day he was ordered a wine glap full of Porter, three or four times aday and a light now -is lings diet. Under this treatment The continued gradually to mend. This was one of the mildes & cases. The treatment however was the same in principle, in nearly all, though At was sometimes necessary to stime -ulate organously. in that form of the disease which attached the Lungs, the treatment was

Communications to the above left and of presidenticiply stops if no boundedle you mosty the May of land some Bane ; Culture bear its strong but ation insuranglished Mindeed the Lyness, the Construent a

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mees swely different. Unless whom the conmediate accession of the disease the lancet was Reldom admissable, rand indeed was keldom employed; about local bleeding by cuts was found of much service. There were follows by a large blister which was to be superated as fast as the preceding one healed, untill every vestige of the lough had dis appeared. When the blis ter failed in producing its wonted effect, which often happened, the Decoction of can thureder in shto Tun pentine was em played. Some times however, it was almost impossuble to produce external critation by any means, the disease withing theing to violent, that it appeared entirely to destroy the suscept abil

interest of activities of the older worderedown toward History indestrated the hilliers was welp their he atter a obylood the the stall edin texterin wife son the suppose Darlope, then it be hired extend hing homed while cerate aldress the

ity of the shingto the action of the most violent writants which could be appliced. This was a most unfa vourable, and I might her hah say, latal symptom. This form of the disease, was not so rapid in course, as those which have been before described. One case preoblect in particular. He rem rened in the mens clinical ward about three weeks, during the most y which time, his skin was unsus - while to the action of any hind of vericutory, and before his death he was reduced to a more bundle of Then and bornes. The General treat ment of the discure, was such as has been described in treating of its other varieties.

the fit before This gulles have I agen the identity the should wanter the the the recovering the varior alamines owner intendstationing while contraducted it highlants the the train of associan to dississant who does if he then were trates butet on the thirosoph, the beather has land door sterrationed in the latter of

Move to make remains for me to make a few general remarks on the breakment of thes disease, and have done . If was a very fatal one in the alms house, but I do not think to would have been fould the hateinto have been moved to a more healthy whention. The impure air of a rowded ward, the noise and buste accounted by he many hursons of und the reglect or ignorance of un interested murses, all contributed to under the chance of recovery were precarious.

When the Tympanetic abdomen or cured, harge done of the Turpenting the feether hard to be the best namedy, combined with external formentations. As far as I loud

At representigential airiefor motion With the out menter 2 to That he fell reaght new Hote Alexan thate the light of the north things drawn to hant of windles This lie that Word traile The infer wall of the how Dougen got the threath was hall when matterly who induring he has was trained that so typicale the of atout to the arming the childrentes to steen in filter the new brilespole Whiseletter Indianated Williams where the sea down my othe of any

'wdge from the cases which I have un of this disease, the simplest treatment succeeded best . I think one of the greatest faults in our treat ment of this class of diseases, is our desire to do too much. The see the whappy patient labouring under a most violent disease, are startled A his danger, and like the unshill full mother, who always crams down sweethings to hall the hair and still the cries of her children; to often I fear the unshilfull play. - siteian, in his year to do " something" worwhelms exhausted nature, and distroys the last remains of vitality. If we take a cool and collected oceiv of the State of the patient; we find the Tystem labouring under a violent

abough they loss remement of in listing them to be the form of the listing to be the second to the second listing to be the second to the second to be the second to be second

and morbed action, the precise nature of which we do not know; but we know that this action tends to subvert some or all of the natural functions. Nature, ever on the alert to watch and prevent the entrance of disease; calls forth all her resources to combat with the enemy. But there are some disea ser which nature alone is not capable of defeating, and her violent efforts Whe the struggles of the condemned mule actor only accelerate her doom. It is the part of the phy sician, to cut the noose which buids her, and her own efforts can then be exerted with avantage.

There is as Darwin abserves, but a certain quantity of dens on al how on in the system; and this quantity

ty purhaps, is not much more than sufficient to supply the natural wants. It is by this vital or sensorial jower, that nature carries on her fune tional operations in health, by this her organs are repaired, when attered or distroyed by disease; and it is whom this vital hower, that the physician must act, in order to prevent ar subdue morbid action. The human frame, may be compared to a vast and complicated machine, consisting of many organs, each her forming different operations, and such hable, by various causes to be thrown out of order. of any hart of its structure is clogged and obs--tructed in its motions, The whole machine moves heavily, and unless

down dept is lotable but at an sens grid the Heart has were to just withou and weathered tornatherated one have throwing in proper and any harts " est wind there we copyed and a long

repaired by a smillfull architect at last ceases to go. But the omnipe tent hower which formed the animal machine also endowed it, with a vital principle of sustaining all its natural functions, and repairing, many of its accidental injuries. In old age the today withers and decays, because the period has arrived when the vi tal hower has been nearly all exten ded; and no longer exists in suffice ent quantities to carry on vigourous by the operations necessary for the Continuance of life. What this power is we do not know, and indeed it is our business, to study only its mode of action. A appears to be generated and furnished to the system as its wants require, and may be carried

the part course to start the owner he boller it of their was direction phone Castinow the Shetta tratto aminates

from one hart of the system to another having some parts even destitute in order to act more vigourously whom others. Patients in many diseases, hear depletion much better than in health, and this is commonly ascribed to the Stimulus of the disease . But in fact, disease is not a stimulant, bot its presence calls forth the vetal powers to repel A, and A is this, which supports the system under the circumstances mentioned. Thus also in wounds, when there is lop of parts, it is in this manner they are restored. Nature appears to Concentrate all her forces in the neighbourhood; the harts around become viritable and painfull, granulations shoot out, and final

by the whole becomes repaired. But if the wound is very extensibe, nature done is not able to repair it. If the edges are too far apart, She throws out granulations in vain, they either supper rate and slough off or become diseased, and if unasaisted she goes on struggling untile all her excitement becomes was ted and life gradually extinct. Here then we see that the powers of Nature are limited and That she acts bandly; for when it is impossible for her to duccied in her object, the goes on struggling still more violent by thou - gh, to her own detriment. And here also we her that it is by placing the object to be attained, within the hmets of the hower of Nature That the surgeon or physician becomes

wowworth and oracted ater, Dud of lite be the syling pottle bear of head a thou

weful. The do not stimulate the excite ment to more vigourous action, we rather indeavour to moderate it, and is it more reasonable, that in all low forms of fever, we should endeavour to good on Nature , when purhaps the fever itself is owing to her already too violent and fruit less exertions. allede here only to the too indis crim mate use of stimulants; juciously, Milied, they we highly useful and necessary Thus we see That when disease is can hed by diso-ganization of parts, and Cannot eradicate it, but Nature can eraduate the disease in many instan ces and art can make the number greater. The does this as before stated, by having the way for the action of

untity mer Egonoric beloon for with had water that the clina in more more mit an

the former. It may not uninteresting, in this place, to endeavour to pursue the furations of Nature a little further. I have in one place a cribed death, to the gradual wasting of excitement a Lensorial hower; but it may also be owing to other causes. Though ela twe produces or manufactures, the vari our materials with which she has to sperate, in performing the functions above mentioned, yet it is necessary that the machine whom which she has to produce them, should be in a sufficient state of perfection, or she cannot obtain them. We here see her performing two distinct general opera tions. The applies her power first, to form materials, from the resources. which are supplied her from without, tree fearly ween out that I tente to be

and labours with them to supply the deficiencies, occasioned by the waste, ducay, and injuries of the body. With out these materials she can no more perform these latter operations, than the curpenter can build houses, with and wood. Thus in cases of violent disease, disorganising vital parts, death may take place from this cause. Terhaps in the majority of instances, death takes place from both these causes operating together, and indeed in most eases, they are to intimately combined, that is diffault to distinguish them. Some times, for instance, harts or organs may be injured, which nature succeeds in hartrally repairing, but the materi als they afterwards outply are defer

leave a dorthopie one the mornish at the

unt in quantity, or of a bad quality; and in this case, the parts whom which They are engrapted must become un healthy. Whenthis disposition has ome taken place, esherially in argans of Mutretion; it is obvious that unly wrested it must extend its self; and I might say at the rate of writhmet well progression, for as more organs become composed of these unhealthy materials, more unhealthy matter is gwen out, until the whole system becomes gradually disorganised, and nature can support The contest with disease no longer. Upour this house ble we might is blain the progress of Lucy benera, derefula, and many other obseases. The malidies become thro nie, and the patient may exist for a

transitioned by opered the procuration

long time, but his system is disea ud, and unless the disorder can be the shed by the powers of art, becomes graually more and more so, untill vetal ty is warm out.

The functions of Nature are he diversing freed and various, that it would regular be specially been her, in all her operations. My limits do not allow me to pursue them further here, and for the special ations of how directly been to make, I smoot by industried to make, I smoot have that it has been by a close and withfull observance of the operation of Nature whom the human womony; that soon of of the great improvement which have gradually been made, in the wit of Jurgery and Medicine have been

suggested. The human frame is one of do purplicated a structure of the functions we har for med by its numerous to di versitied; and above all, the other tions of the short which governs and animates its motions so myste mous; that although the birs & tal lents of every age have been employ id in its contimplation, it has never been her feetly understood. Perhals A never will be . Yet let us not he discouraged, for if they have not unravelled all the mystery, with which animal life is surrounded, get almost every age has revealed to to us some new law, or thrown light on some farmerly obscure function , which farmed the bases of a more rutional bractice, Than before existed,

and finally brought the healings at to its present state of perfection. But notwerth standing much has been done, much still remains to do, and it is reasonable to hope, that he watering altentively the sperations of Nature in health and chiscoury much will thele be done. When the whole I cannot better conclude, than by grateriz the words of the local when he Rays—

Finis



